

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 27, 2004, **VICTOR MANUEL LOPEZ-ADAME** and **ANGEL AGUILAR-LOPEZ**, age 27 and 36, respectively, both of Mexico, were sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, for eight counts of Transporting Illegal Aliens, in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii). **AGUILAR-LOPEZ** was also sentenced for Illegal Reentry After Deportation, in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1326(a). **LOPEZ-ADAME** was sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment, as to each count, to run concurrently; 2 years' supervised release on each count, also to run concurrently; and ordered to pay an \$800 special assessment. In addition, **LOPEZ-ADAME** was ordered immediately deported. **AGUILAR-LOPEZ** was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment on each count, to run concurrently, 2 years' supervised release on Counts 1-8 and 1 year supervised release on Count 9, also to run concurrently; and ordered to pay a \$900 special assessment. **AGUILAR-LOPEZ** was ordered deported after his release from imprisonment. The violations took place on August 4, 2003, in Madison County, Illinois, when a Collinsville, Illinois, police officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle. Discovered inside the vehicle were 8 illegal aliens. Agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement determined that the driver, **LOPEZ-ADAME**, and the front seat passenger, **AGUILAR-LOPEZ**, were also illegal aliens. It was also subsequently determined that **AGUILAR-LOPEZ** had been previously deported on September 9, 2001, at Nogales, Arizona. **LOPEZ-ADAME** pled guilty to Counts 1 through 8 on September 17, 2003. **AGUILAR-LOPEZ** pled guilty to Counts 1 through 9 on September 24, 2003.

The investigation was conducted by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The case was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Angela Scott.